THE VERMONT TRANSCRIPT.

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VERMONT TRANSCRIPT.

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By HENRY A. CUTLER.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

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One-third of a column	23 00
One-half of a column	35 00
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One column	60 00

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Selected Poetry.

THE LITTLE PEOPLE.

A dreary place would be this earth
Were there no little people in it;
The song of life would lose its mirth,
Were there no children to begin it.

No little forms, like buds to grow,
And make the admiring heart surrender;
No little hands on breast and brow,
To keep the thrilling love-cords tender.

No babes within our arms to leap,
No little feet toward slumber tending;
No little knee in prayer to bend,
Our lips the sweet words lending.

What would the mothers do for work,
Were there no pants or jackets tearing?
No tiny dresses to embroider?
No cradle for their watchful caring?

No rosy boys, at wintry morn,
With satchel to the school-house hasting;
No merry shouts as home they rush;
No precious morsel for their tasting.

Tall, grave, grown people at the door,
Tall, grave, grown people at the table;
The men on business all intent,
The dames lugubrious as they're able.

The sterner souls would get more stern,
Unfeeling natures more inhuman,
And man to stone coldness turn,
And woman would be less than woman.

For in that clime towards which we reach,
Through Time's mysterious, dim unfolding,
The little ones with cherub smile
Are still our Father's face beholding.

So said His voice in whom we trust,
When in Judea's realm a preacher,
He made a child confront the proud,
And he in simple guise their teacher.

Life's song, indeed, would lose its charm,
Were there no babes to begin it;
A doleful place this world would be,
Were there no little people in it.

Selected Miscellany.

EMELIAN, THE FOOL.

TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN BY GEORGE BORROW.

The tale of Emelian, of which we give here a version, is highly popular amongst the peasantry of Russia, and is told by them at their merry-makings from the upper shores of the Gulf of Finland to the Ural Mountains. It bears some resemblance to the tale of Aladdin, the pike playing in the Russian story much the same part as the lamp in the Arabian one, and it is by no means impossible that both tales are derived from the same myth. But from whatever source the story of Emelian may have sprung, the manner in which it is wrought is essentially Russian, and from it, as here rendered, the English reader may form a better idea of the way of life, and the feelings of the Russian mujiks, or peasantry, than from a dozen common books of travels in Russia. Emelian is represented as a fool, but there is much in what he says and does common to the Russian mujik in general. He lies in the izbushka, or cabin, upon the petsch, or stove, and when told to get up, he says: "What should I get up for?—Mnie zdies teplo, i ia lienios—'tis warm here and I am lazy." There spoke the genuine mujik, the most prominent features of whose character are a love of warmth and a hatred of exertion, though when he choose to get up and rouse himself, he is capable of very great things, can outwit the Schort himself, bear hunger and fatigue better than any other man, and contend even with the Briton at the game of the bayonet. Perhaps we may hereafter present to the public in an English dress some other popular tales illustrative of the manner of life and ideas of the mujiks, to whom the attention of the English public has of late been much directed, owing to the release of the present Czar, by whom they are emancipated from serfdom,—a measure likely to be productive of much weal or woe throughout his extensive dominions. The tale is as follows:—

In a certain village there lived a mujik or yeoman, who had three sons; two were clever, but the third was a fool, who was called Emelian. When the good man had reached an extreme old age, he called all his sons to him, and said:

"Dear children, I feel that I have not long to live; I therefore leave you house and cattle, which you will divide in equal porportions. I also leave you money; a hundred roubles for each."

Soon after these words he died, and his children, having given him a decent funeral, lived very comfortably. After a little time, the brothers of Emelian took it into their heads to start for the city, and employ in traffic the three hundred roubles which their father had left them; so they said to the fool Emelian:

"Harkee, fool, we are going to the city, and will take your hundred roubles with us, and if our traffic goes on profitably we will buy you a red caftan, a red cap, and red boots; but do you remain at home, and if your sisters-in-law, our wives (for they were married) order you to do anything, be sure you do it."

The fool, wishing to receive the red caftan, red cap, and red boots, told his brothers in reply that he would do whatever his sisters-in-law should order him. After this, his brothers set out for the city, and the fool remained at home, and lived with his sisters-in-law. After some time, on a certain day, when it was winter, and there was a terrible frost, his sisters-in-law told him to go for water; but the fool, who was lying on the petsch, or stove, said:

"Yes, indeed, and why not you?"

"Why not we, you fool?" cried the sisters-in-law; "don't you see what a frost it is? and that none but a man can go out in such weather?"

"But," said he, "I am lazy."

"Lazy?" screamed his sisters-in-law; "won't you presently want something to eat? And if there be no water how can we boil anything?" Thereupon they added, "Very well, when our husbands come home with the red caftan and cap they promised him, we will tell them to give him nothing."

When the fool heard this he thought it best to go, for he wished very much to get the red caftan and cap. So getting down from the petsch he began to put on his stockings and boots, and to dress himself, and when he was quite dressed, he took with him a couple of pails and a hatchet, and went to the river; for the village in which they lived stood very near the river. When he had come to the stream, he began to hew away at the ice, and when he had made a very big hole, he filled his pails with water, and placing them on the ice, he stood beside the hole, and looked. Now as the fool stood and looked he saw a very large pike swimming in the hole. Fool as Emelian was, he nevertheless wished to catch the pike, he therefore advanced softly, and coming near to it, seized it suddenly with his hand, and pulling it out of the water, placed it in his bosom, and began to make for home. But the pike said to him:

"How's this, fool? For what do you seize me?"

"For what?" said he; "I shall carry you home, and tell my sisters-in-law to boil you."

"Not so, fool; don'tcarry me home, but put me back into the water, and I will make you a rich man."

But the fool did not believe him, and was making for home. The pike, seeing that the fool did not let him go, said:

"Listen, fool, do but put me into the water, and I will do for you whatsoever you wish, so that every desire of your heart shall be fulfilled."

The fool, hearing these words, was very glad; for, as he was excessively lazy, he thought to himself—

"If the pike does whatever I ask, all will be got ready for me, and I shall have no need to work."

He therefore said to the pike:

"I will let you go, only do what you promised."

Thereupon the pike made answer:

"First place me in the water, and I will fulfil my promise."

But the fool said to him that he must first of all perform his promise, and that he would then let him go.

The pike, seeing that he would not put him into the water, said:

"If you wish me to do for you what you want, you must now tell me what it is that you desire."

The fool said:

"I desire that my pails of water should march of themselves up the hill" (for the village stood upon a hill), "but so that none of the water be spilt out of them."

The pike immediately said to him:

"Remember, Emelian, the words which I am about to say to you, and the words are as follows: "At the pike's behest, and at my request, march, pails, by yourselves up the hill."

The fool repeated the words after the pike:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, march, pails, by yourselves up the hill."

Forthwith the pails, and the yoke by which he was wont to carry them, marched of themselves up the hill. Emelian, seeing this, was very much surprised, and said to the pike:

"Will it always be so?"

To which the pike made answer:

"All things you wish will be done, even as this has been done: only don't forget the words which I taught you."

Thereupon he released the pike into the water, and went himself after his pails. The neighbors, seeing what was going on, were filled with wonder, and said, amongst themselves—

"What is the fool about? The pails of water walk of themselves, and he walks after them."

But Emelian, without saying anything to them, went home, and the pails went of themselves into the keeping-room, and placed themselves on the bench, while the fool mounted upon the petsch. A little time after, his sisters-in-law said to him again:

"Emelian, what do you lie there for? go and cut some wood."

But the fool said:

"Yes, indeed, and why not you?"

"We?" screamed his sisters-in-law; "it is now winter, and if you do not go and cut some wood you will soon be cold."

"I am lazy," said the fool.

"Lazy?" said his sisters-in-law to him, "then you will be frozen."

Thereupon they added:

"If you don't go and cut wood we will tell our husbands not to give you the red caftan, nor the red cap, nor the boots."

The fool, from the desire which he felt to obtain the red caftan, cap and boots, was obliged to comply with their request. But as he was thoroughly lazy, and did not wish to get down from the petsch, he said these words softly as he lay:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, go, hatchet, now, and cut down wood; and do you, wood, come of yourself to the room, and stow yourself within the stove."

Forthwith, the hatchet, without any one taking it, hopped forth, and begun to cut away, and the wood of itself came into the room, and stowed itself in the stove, at the sight of which the sisters-in-law wondered much at the craft of Emelian; and every day, when the fool only ordered the hatchet to go out and cut wood, the hatchet went and cut some. And in this manner he lived with his sisters-in-law for some time. At length, his sisters-in-law said to him:

"Emelian! we have no wood, so pray go out into the forest and cut some."

The fool said:

"Why don't you go yourselves?"

"How should we go?" replied the sisters-in-law; "the forest is a great way off, and as it is now winter, it is too cold for us to go to the forest for wood."

But the fool said to them: "I am lazy."

"Lazy!" cried his sisters-in-law; "if you don't go you will soon be cold. But if you refuse to go, when your brothers, our husbands, come home we will order them to give you neither red caftan, red cap, nor red boots."

The fool, wishing to obtain the red caftan, cap, and boots, felt obliged to go to the forest for wood, and getting up from the petsch, he began to put on his stockings and boots, and to dress himself; and when he was quite dressed he went out into the court, and drawing the sledge out of the shed, and taking with him a rope and hatchet, he mounted the sledge and bade his sisters-in-law open the gate. The sisters-in-law, seeing that he got into the sledge without putting the horses to it, for the fool did not lead out the horses, said to him:

"How is this, Emelian? you have got into the sledge without putting the horses to it."

But he said to them that he had no need of horses, and only wanted them to open the gate. The sisters-in-law did so, and the fool, as he sat in the sledge, said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, set forward, sledge, to the forest."

At these words the sledge forthwith went forth. The country people living around were quite astounded to see Emelian riding in the sledge without horses, and going with such speed that, even if the best pair of horses in the world had been fastened to the sledge, it would have been impossible to go quicker. Now as it was necessary for the fool, in order to reach the forest, to go through the town, he drove it through it at full speed; but as he did not know that it was necessary for him to cry out, in order that the people might not be run over, he drove through the city without crying to the people to get out of the way, and ran over a great number of them, and although they gave chase to him, yet it was impossible to overtake him. Emelian, having passed through the city and reached the wood, stopped the sledge. The fool then getting out of the sledge said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, fall, hatchet, now to cutting wood; and do you, wood, gather yourself into the sledge and be corded."

Scarcely had the fool said these words when the hatchet began to cut the wood, and the wood, gathering itself up, placed itself in the sledge, and tied itself with the cord. After he had cut as much wood as he wanted, he ordered the hatchet to cut down a small oak; and when the hatchet had done so he placed himself upon the load and said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, O sledge now travel home."

The sledge instantly set off very briskly. But when Emelian arrived at the city in which he had run over so many people, the folks were waiting for him in order to seize him, and as soon as he drove into the city they set about dragging him off the load and began to belabor him. The fool seeing that they were pulling him and beating him, said these words in an undertone:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, now, sapling, break their arms and legs."

Forthwith, the sapling, springing out, began to beat them in a pretty manner, and the people taking to flight, the fool drove out of the town to his own village, whilst the sapling drubbed all soundly, and went in pursuit of them. Emelian, on reaching his home, mounted upon the petsch.

In the meantime, after he had driven out of the city, there was much talk of him everywhere—not because he had driven over a number of people, but because he had come driving to the city on a sledge without horses; and by degrees the news reached the court, and came to the ears of the king himself. The king, on hearing the story, felt no little desire to see the fool, and sent an officer with some soldiers to seek him. The officer proceeded without delay out of the city, taking the road by which the fool had traveled in order to go to the forest. On arriving at the village where Emelian lived, the officer sent for the starost, or head man of the village, and said to him:

"I am sent by the king to take your fool, and convey him to his presence."

The starost immediately showed him to the house where Emelian lived, and the officer, going into the kitchen, demanded—

"Where's the fool?"

The fool, who was lying on the petsch, answered—

"What's that to you?"

"What's that to me? Dress yourself quickly that I may carry you to the presence of the king."

Quoth Emelian:

"What have I to do there?"

The officer, enraged at his answering so disrespectfully, struck him on the cheek. The fool, feeling himself struck, said softly:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, oak sapling, break their hands and shins.

The sapling, hopping forth, began to beat them, drubbing them all preciously, both officer and soldiers, so that the officer was obliged to return discomfitted. Arriving at the city, he related to the king how the fool had beaten them all. The king was very much astonished, and did not believe it possible that he could have beaten so many. The king, however, selected a prudent man, whom he sent with an injunction to bring the fool to him if possible, even though he should have recourse to deceit. The king's envoy arriving at the village where Emelian lived, sent for the starost, and said to him:

"I am sent by the king to fetch your fool; but first of all bring before me the people with whom he lives."

The starost instantly ran and brought the sisters-in-law; and the envoy asked them.

"What does the fool like?"

The sisters-in-law replied:

"Gracious sir, our fool likes to be entreated to do a thing; he refuses once, and twice in order to be entreated a third time, when he never refuses, but does all he is asked—but he does not like to be spoken to roughly."

The envoy then dismissed them, warning them not to tell Emelian that he had sent for them. After that, having bought some raisins, prunes, and dried figs, he proceeded to the house of the fool, and on his arrival he went up to the petsch, and said:

"How's this, Emelian, why are you lying on the petsch?"

Then giving him the raisins, prunes, and dried figs, he said:

"Come, Emelian, I will carry you to the king."

But the fool answered:

"I am warm here," for he loved nothing but warmth.

"Let us go, Emelian," said the envoy, "you will be quite comfortable there."

"Ay," said the fool, "but I am lazy."

Thereupon the envoy began to beseech him once more.

"Pray let us go, Emelian, the king has ordered a red caftan to be made for you, and also a red cap and red boots."

The fool, hearing that a red caftan had been ordered to be made for him, provided he went, said:

"Do you go before, and I will follow."

The envoy, not wishing to trouble him any more, left him, and asked privately of the sisters-in-law whether the fool would not deceive him; but they assured him he never deceived anybody. The envoy then set forth on his return, and the fool, placing himself once more on the petsch, said:

"O how I wish that I had not to go to court, but was there already."

Thereupon he said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, move straight, O petsch to the city."

Thereupon the walls of the room gave a crack, and the petsch sallied forth, and when the petsch was clear of the house it drove along with such rapidity that it was impossible to overtake it. On the road he overtook the envoy, and drove in his company to the court. The king, being told that the fool had arrived, went out to look at him, with all his ministers, and seeing that Emelian came on the petsch, he was filled with wonder. As for the fool, he lay still and said nothing. After a little time the king asked him why he had run over so many people when he went to the forest for wood.

"How could I help it?" said Emelian; "why did they not get out of my way."

Just then, the king's daughter came to a window, and looked at the fool. Emelian, chancing to turn his eyes to the window from which she was looking, and seeing that she was very handsome, said in an undertone:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, may yon beauty fall in love with me."

No sooner had he pronounced these words than the daughter of the king fell in love with him as she gazed upon him. And the fool, after that, said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, move back, petsch, to our own house."

The petsch, without a moment's delay, marched out of the court, drove through the city, and made for home, where, on arriving, it resumed its former place.

After that Emelian lived for some time quite at ease; but the king, in the city, fared very differently, for the princess, having fallen in love with the fool at the words which he had uttered, began to beg of her father to give her the fool for a husband. The king was very much incensed both against her and the fool, and wished very much to lay violent hands on the latter, but did not know how. Thereupon the king's ministers proposed that the officer who had before gone for Emelian, and had failed to bring him, should be sent again for him on account of his former failure. The king, approving of their counsel, summoned the officer to his presence, and when he appeared before him, the king said:

"Listen, friend, I sent thee for the fool before; but thou didst not bring him; now for that offence I will send thee a second time, and in order that thou mayest bring him without fail, I tell thee that if thou dost bring him thou shalt be rewarded, and if thou dost not thou shalt be punished."

The officer on hearing the words of the king, departed without delay in quest of the fool, and having arrived at the village, he sent again for the starost, and said to him:

"Here is money for you, buy all that is necessary for a good dinner to-morrow, invite Emelian, and when he is dining with you ply him with drink until he falls under the table."

The starost, knowing that he was sent by the king, did not dare to disobey him, but purchased all that was necessary, and invited the fool. Emelian having promised to come, the officer expectad him with great joy; and the fool coming the next day, they plied him so hard with drink that Emelian lay down and fell dead asleep. The officer, seeing that he was asleep, immediately ordered his kabitka to be got ready, and to draw up to the door, and when it drew up they placed the fool in it. After that the officer got into the kabitka, and carried him straight to the court. The ministers forthwith gave information to the king of the arrival of the officer, and the king no sooner heard of it than he gave orders for a great barrel to be well fenced with iron hoops, which was forthwith done, and the barrel was brought to the king, who, seeing that all was ready, ordered his daughter and the fool to be placed in the barrel, and the barrel to be covered with pitch. No sooner had this been done than he commanded the barrel to be cast into the sea, and was forthwith obeyed. The king then returned to his palace, and the barrel, abandoned to its fate, floated about for some hours. The fool all this time was asleep; awaking, however, at last, and perceiving that he was in darkness, he asked of himself—"Where am I?" for he imagined that he was alone.

"You are in a barrel, Emelian," said the princess; "and they have placed me with you."

"And who are you?" asked the fool.

"I am the king's daughter," she replied; and then she related on what account she had been placed in the barrel with him.

Thereupon she begged him to deliver himself and her from the barrel. But the fool made no other reply than—

"I am warm enough here."

"Pray have mercy upon me," said the princess. "Take compassion on my tears, and deliver me out of this barrel."

"I'll do no such thing," said Emelian, "I am lazy."

The princess began again to beseech him:

"Have mercy upon me, Emelian; save me out of this barrel, and do not let me die."

The fool, being moved by her entreaties and tears, said to her:

"Very well, I will do this one thing for you." After that, he said softly to himself: At the pike's behest, and at my request, cast up, O sea, this barrel in which we lie, on some dry ground, and go to pieces of thyself."

Scarcely had the fool uttered these words when the sea began to heave, and forthwith cast the barrel on dry ground, whereupon the barrel went to pieces of itself. Emelian arose, and went with the princess farther up the land on which they were cast, and the fool perceived that they were upon a very beautiful island, on which were a great number of trees of different kinds, with all kinds of fruits; and the princess, seeing these things, was very much rejoiced that they were upon so beautiful an island. In a little time, however, she said:

"But Emelian, where are we to live, for here I don't see a hut or any kind of shelter?"

But the fool said:

"You are already hankering for something more."

"Do be so kind, Emelian, as to order some kind of house to be built," said the princess; "in order that we may have some place to take shelter in when it rains;" for by this time she knew that he could do anything if he did but please.

But the fool said:

"I am lazy."

Whereupon she began to beseech him again, and Emelian, touched by her entreaties, was obliged to do what she desired; and going a little way apart from her, said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, may there be erected, in the midst of this island, a palace which will be twice better than the king's, and may there be from the palace a crystal bridge to cross the water by; and may there be in the palace all kinds of servants."

Scarcely had he pronounced these words when an enormous palace with a crystal bridge made its appearance. The fool and the princess, entering the palace, perceived that there was plenty of magnificent furniture in the rooms, and that there were numbers of people, both lackeys and officers, of various descriptions, who were awaiting the commands of the fool. The fool, seeing that all these people had a decent and honorable appearance, and he alone was a lout, wished to be made better, and therefore said:

"At the pike's behest, and at my request, be I now made a youth so handsome as to have no equal, and possessed of the very best of understandings."

These words were scarcely uttered when he became so handsome and intelligent that everybody wondered. After this, Emelian sent one of his servants to the king, to invite him and all his ministers to the palace. The messenger of Emelian rode to the king over that same crystal bridge which the fool had built. On his arrival at court the ministers presented him to the king, whom the messenger addressed in this manner:

"Gracious sir; I am sent by my master with his humble compliments to invite you to dinner."

"Who is thy master?" demanded the king.

But the messenger replied:

"I cannot tell you, gracious sir, anything of my master (for the fool had forbidden him to say who he was); but after you have dined together he will give you a full account of himself."

The king, filled of curiosity to know who it could be that invited him to dinner, told the messenger that he would come without fail; and the messenger forthwith returned. Scarcely had he arrived when the king, with all his ministers, came riding over the bridge to dine with the fool. On the arrival of the king at the palace, Emelian went out to meet him, took him by the hand white as snow, kissed him on the mouth sweet as sugar, and leading him into his palace of white marble, set him down to the oaken table to the feast of swpet things and mead; and the king and his ministers, sitting at the table, drank, ate, and were merry. Now when they got up from the table and sat in their places, the fool said to the king:

"Gracious sir; do you know me, and who I am?"

But as Emelian was then in a splendid dress, and moreover, as his face was very handsome, it was impossible to recognize him. Therefore the king said that he did not know him. But the fool said to him:

"Gracious sir, do you not remember how a certain fool came driving into your court on a petsch, and how you shut him up with your daughter in a barrel, which you covered with pitch and cast upon the sea? Know you that I am the very same Emelian."

The king seeing that it was the fool who was now before him, was very much frightened and did not know what to do. But the fool at that moment went for the princess, and led her before the king. The king on seeing his daughter was very much delighted and said to the fool:

"I have sinned grievously against you; therefore I give you my daughter as a wife."

The fool, on hearing these words, most humbly thanked the king; and as Emelian had everything ready for the marriage, it was celebrated that day with great magnificence. On the next day the fool gave a magnificent banquet to all ministers, whilst for the common people hogsheads were brought out, full of all kinds of drinks. When the rejoicing was over the king offered to resign his kingdom to him; but he refused to accept it. Thereupon the king returned to his dominions. But the fool remained in his palace, and lived in great happiness and prosperity.

THE MOTHER'S INFLUENCE.—A mother on the green hills of Vermont, stood at her garden gate holding by her right hand a son of sixteen years old, mad with love of the sea. "Edward, said she, "they tell me that the great temptation of the seaman's life is drink. Promise me, before you quit your mother's hand, that you never will drink." Said he, for he told me the story, "I gave her the promise. I went the broad globe over; Calcutta, the Mediterranean, San Francisco, the Cape of Good Hope, and during forty years, whenever I saw the glass filled with the sparkling liquor, my mothers form by the garden gate, on the hillside of Vermont, rose up before me; and to-day, at sixty, my lips are innocent of the taste of liquor." Was not that sweet evidence of the power of a single word? And yet it was but half; "for," said he, "yesterday, there came into my counting-room a young man of forty, and asked me, 'Do you know me?' 'No,' said I. 'I was brought once,' said he to my informant, 'drunk into your presence, on shipboard; you were a passenger; the captain kicked me aside; you took me into your berth, kept me there until I slept off my intoxication, and then you asked me if I had a mother. I said, never, that I know of; I never heard a mother's voice. You told me of yours, at the garden gate; and to-day, twenty years later, I am master of one of the finest packets in New York, and I came to ask you to come and see me.'" How far back that little candle throws its beam—the mother's word on the green hillside of Vermont! God be thanked for the almighty power of a single word.—*Water Cure.*

SOMETHING DOGMATICAL.—I was visiting the city school in the vicinity of Boston. When the morning bell was rung, a large dog walked in with the scholars and took his place on a chair near the teacher's platform, as grave as any learned professor. Thereupon I expected to behold a grand strategic movement, which you know is a military expression for being driven back. But no one, save myself, seemed to be surprised, and his dogship remained in a state of masterly inactivity. Hence I was about concluding that our good old state, not content with instruction of her children, was elevating the canine standard of knowledge. For since, according to some, man is but an educated monkey, why should he not develop the mind of his brother, the dog? Just here the teacher set me right. The dog in question was the property of a boy attending school. He came with the boy regularly, and either lay on the floor or mounted the chair by his side. When his young master's classes were called, the dog was prompt to take his place, standing with his fore feet on a line with the class. I cannot say I heard him recite, as the teacher did not question him; but he listened with an air that seemed to say, "I know it all." When the class was dismissed, they turned, wheeled to the left, and marched to their seats. The dog followed, turning with military precision, wagging his bushy tail joyfully, concious of having acquitted himself in a manner worthy of his doghood.

So far as his deportment was concerned he was a model pupil; he had no surly, dogged ways, and was never known to whisper or play, which is a very great thing to be said. He seemed also to have a genuine thirst for knowledge. He would go to school without his master, take his accustomed place ready for work. He never offered to "recite" in any classes save his own; but the instant they were called, the knowing old fellow was at his post. I saw him in reading, arithmetic and spelling, in each of which he appeared to my perfect satisfaction. I have forgotten his name, but the children know it, and would sometimes whisper it slyly and coax him to play, for he was a great pet with them all. "So then the teacher turned him out." After one or two ejectments, if he perceived that he was expected to leave he would throw himself down on the floor, whence neither coaxing nor scolding could stir him. His master would fairly drag him out. Once out of the room, he would not leave the house till school was done, and unless tied would take the first opportunity to return to his place in the school-room.

His master having "graduated," the dog has now left. Whether he pursues his studies at any other institution of doxology I do not know, but does he not deserve a degree for his perseverence? They who believe in the transmigration of souls, may see in this progressive animal some future chief magistrate, president, or what not, of this great nation. I will only add in conclusion, that the dog was black.—*Boston Recorder.*

VAST ARMIES AND THEIR MOVEMENTS.—There have been vast armies and grand movements before these days. Here is a record of some of them:

Sennacherib, the Bible tells us, lost in a single night 185,000 men by the destroying angel.

The city of Thebes had a hundred gates, and could send out at each gate 10,000 fighting men and 200 chariots; in all, 1,000,000 men and 20,000 chariots.

The army of Trerah, King of Ethiopia, consisted of 1,000,000 men and 300 chariots of war.

Sesostris, King of Egypt, led against his enemies 600,000 men, 24,000 cavalry, and 27 scyth-armed chariots. 1491 before Christ.

Hamilcar went from Carthage, and landed ner Palermo. He had a fleet of 2000 ships and 3000 small vessels, and a land force of 300,000 men. At the battle in which he was defeated, 150,000 were slain.

Ninus, the Assyrian king, about 2200 years before Christ, led against the Backtrians his army, consisting of 1,700,000 foot, 200,000 horse, and 16,000 chariots armed with scythes.

Semiramis employed 2,000,000 men in building the mighty Babylon. She took 100,000 prisoners at the Indus, and sank 1,000 boats.

A short time after the taking of Babylon, the forces of Cyrus consisted of 600,000 foot, 120,000 horse, and 2,000 chariots, armed with scythes.

An army of Cambyses, 50,000 strong was buried up in the desert sands of Africa by a south wind.

When Xerxes arrived at Thermopylæ, his land and sea forces amounted to 2,641,610, exclusive of servants, eunochs, women, sutlers, etc., in all numbering 5,283,220. So say Herodotus, Plutarch, and Isocrates.

The army of Artaxerxas before the battle of Cunaxa amounted to about 1,200,000.

Ten thousand horse and 100,000 foot fell on the battle-field of Issus.

When Jerusalem was taken by Titus 1,100,000 perished in various ways.

The army of Tamerlane is said to have amounted to 1,600,000, and that of his antagonist, Bajazet, 1,400.000.

HOW THEY LOOK AT IT.—With what different feelings different persons will look upon the coming of the bright spring! To some it will speak only hope and joy and blessedness. To the others the tender blade of grass upon which the eye falls—and budding trees, the serene blue skies, the fragrant, many-hued flowers—will all be so many elements of pain and distress; for that soft breeze stirs the grass over a new-made grave, and all that brightness and beauty seem but a wretched mockery. "Why? why? why?" the impatient soul constantly reiterates, as it vainly seeks to reconcile itself to the change between the hope of the last spring-time and the sadness of this. There are moments when one is satisfied submissively to leave this question unsolved; but nature, strong and self-asserting, soon moans again in pain: and so, all over the land, are they who will turn away, sick at heart, from the brightness and beauty of this coming spring.—*Fanny Fern.*

CAUSE OF DIPTHERIA.—New fashions in dress produce new diseases. Diptheria, that infectious form of sore-throat, is said to have originated in the modern custom of wearing low, turn-down collars, instead of the old stiff white walls, which now mark so conspicuously the middle-aged man. The national throat, guarded for so many centuries by ropes of muslin, black velvet solitaires, lace collars, and other knick-knacks, was suddenly stripped of all its defense, and thrown open to all the rude winds of the English year. The result blossoms out in the disagreeable form of diptheria, nature's terrible warning of the danger, and simultaneous correction of the folly. To be sure, I have heard that the fashion of high shirt-collars had something to do with hiding marks of disease in the neck and face. But I don't believe it.—*Once A Week.*

☞ The distinguished individual known among the ancients as cupid, has recently changed his name to cupidity, and will hereafter devote his attention to matters of money as well as matrimony.